

DODGE COUNTY EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE DODGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

May 19, 2020

The Dodge County Extension Education Committee of the Dodge County Board of Supervisors met Tuesday, June 21, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. in the 4th Floor County Board Room at the Dodge County Administration Building, 127 East Oak Street, Juneau, WI.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Allen Behl – District 19, called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m. with the following members present: Jennifer Hedrick – District 22 (via telephone), Naomi Kriewald – District 9, Travis Schultz – District 25, and Annette Thompson – Dodge County School District Superintendent (via telephone).

Also present: Area Extension Director Jeff Hoffman and Extension Dodge County department lead Tracy Malterer.

Also present via Zoom: Pattie Carroll, Human Development & Relationships Educator; Kimberly Lafler, FoodWise Nutrition Educator; Caitlin Richardson, FoodWise Nutrition Coordinator; Marie Witzel, 4-H Youth Development Educator; Amanda Young, Dairy and Livestock Educator; and Joe Zimbric, Crops and Soils Educator.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ELECTION OF CHAIR, VICE CHAIR, AND SECRETARY OF EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Behl opens nominations. Thompson nominates Behl as Committee Chair and moves to close nominations and elect Allen Behl as Committee Chair. Motion second by Schultz. Carried 5-0.

Schultz self-nominates as Committee Vice Chair. Thompson moves to close nominations and elect Travis Schultz as Committee Vice Chair. Motion second by Kriewald. Motion carried 5-0.

Behl nominates Kriewald as Committee Secretary. Schultz moves to close nominations and elect Naomi Kriewald as Committee Secretary. Motion second by Behl. Motion carried 5-0.

SET REGULAR MEETING DATE, TIME, & PLACE: The Committee agrees to meet every 3rd Monday of the month at 8:30am at the Dodge County Administration Building unless there are no items on the agenda.

DISCUSS OPTIONS FOR DISTRIBUTION OF AGENDA & PACKETS: Chairman Behl prefers a hard copy packet mailed via USPS. All other Committee members prefer email deliver of agenda and packets.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Thompson, second by Kriewald to approve February 18, 2020 and April 21, 2020 minutes as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

REVIEW OF DEPARTMENT REVENUE AND EXPENSES: Review of the Division of Extension - Dodge County revenues and expenses for February, March, and April 2020 as presented.

APPROVAL OF PER DIEMS OF EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE FOR APRIL 21, 2020 AND MAY 19, 2020 AND CHAIRMAN BEHL'S ATTENDANCE AT A FEBRUARY 18, 2020 MEETING WITH EXTENSION 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT STAFF, DODGE COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVES, DODGE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, AND DODGE COUNTY BOARD CHAIR: Chairperson Behl reviewed the per diem sheets as listed. Motion by Thompson, second by Schultz to approve per diems as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

EXTENSION OVERVIEW AND PROGRAM INTRODUCTION BY AREA EXTENSION DIRECTOR AND COUNTY EXTENSION EDUCATORS: Hoffman provided a high level overview of the UW-Madison, Division of Extension. He explained the vision, mission, and values of Extension.

He also updated the Committee on Extension's position with COVID-19 requirements, modifications in program delivery that prioritize the safety and health of educators, volunteers, and partners, and the issuance of furloughs to state Extension employees.

Each Extension educator gave a power point presentation of their programming that takes place in Dodge County. Educators communicated the efforts and outreach delivered in programming and trainings through COVID-19 challenges.

SHORT ORAL REPORTS BY:

Caitlin Richardson, FoodWise Coordinator– Caitlin Richardson introduced herself and explained her role as the FoodWise Coordinator. The FoodWise Coordinator does much of the administrative work for the FoodWise program in the area, puts together the annual grant/budget proposal for the area as well as does some teaching and Policy, Systems, and Environment work (work that helps make the healthy choice the easy choice where participants live, learn, work and play). Over the last month, Richardson spent much time reaching out to partners and putting together the plan of work, budget and goals for the Area 16 FoodWise team. She also participated in professional development and finalized UW-Madison HR annual duties for her educators.

Kimberly Lafler, FoodWise Educator

In addition to the presentation delivered from FoodWise, Kimberly Lafler, Nutrition Educator, does the majority of direct education with several partner organizations in Dodge County. When policy, systems and environment work closely aligns with direct education and team goals, Lafler participates in that as well. This work has resulted in 522 unique individual direct educational contacts for fiscal year 2019. For the first five months of fiscal year 2020 (October - March 1, 2020) FoodWise has reached 343 unique individuals for direct education. Lafler reported on work she has done gathering the material needed to produce a document of all area food pantries and their revised practices and hours in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Pattie Carroll, Human Development & Relationships Educator – In addition to maintaining her normal work load via Zoom meetings, Carroll is responding to COVID-19 and telecommuting by introducing new programming activities. For example, "Catch Your Breath with Extension," is a professional development/self-care opportunity for local partner agency personnel (ADRC, Human Services, childcare providers, etc.). The weekly Zoom led by Carroll allows partners to connect and share tips and resources around stress management and taking care of individual well-being. Each week focuses on a topic followed with a brief conversation and concludes with a take-away skill. Another new programming initiative is parenting education through *virtual* Parent Cafe's. The Parent Cafe is a free, weekly opportunity for parents and caregivers in Southern Wisconsin to talk with each other. As we connect, we find resources and gain skills that can make our families happier.

Marie Witzel, 4-H Youth Development Educator – In addition to regular working meetings via Zoom, Witzel had trainings for 4-H leaders to answer questions regarding Wisconsin 4-H regulations and how to meet via Zoom for clubs. Witzel also worked with Area 16 colleagues to put together and offer Volunteer Orientation Training via Zoom.

Amanda Young, Dairy and Livestock Educator –Young has been working on multiple state Extension workgroups to create and provide guidance for farms on COVID 19 related issues. Young along with Zimbric are working to help Dodge County farmers have timely access to these resources through our *Stock and Crops* e-newsletter that reaches roughly 500 individuals. Young also distributed the *Agriculture Institute COVID Response* report to committee members.

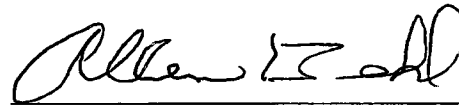
Joe Zimbric, Crops and Soils Educator - The COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting changes to Extension's work arrangements (i.e. moving entirely to a telecommuting arrangement) has had, unsurprisingly, an impact on the outreach and education program delivery for the Crops & Soils educator during the months of April and May. While agriculture educators are historically accustomed to adapting to ever-changing conditions, the pandemic is in a league of its own. Consequently, there have been major changes in the dairy supply chain resulting in milk dumping and severe price reductions for agricultural commodity crops. Fortunately, Zimbric and a group of agriculture educators in east-central Wisconsin came together in delivering timely and relevant webinars on a weekly basis to help farmers, agribusinesses, and crop consultants navigate these unprecedented times. In addition, Zimbric has been fielding numerous calls on a wide variety of farm and garden topics for the general public, and he has been supporting Master Gardener groups and farmer-led watershed groups in their various activities.

NEXT MEETING DATE: The next regularly scheduled Extension Education Committee meeting is Monday, June 15, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. in the 1st Floor Auditorium of the Dodge County Administration Building at 127 East Oak Street, Juneau, Wisconsin.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before this Committee, the meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Behl at 9:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Naomi Kriewald, Secretary


Allen Behl, Chairperson